

IBM-POU920010050US1 Exam'nr M.Chaudry,  
09/841569

- 7 -

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D: Remarks:

The amendment is believed to be in accordance with the examiner's suggestions on formal matters. The contention mentioned in the prior response by applicants was that the references do not provide any on chip process for handling multiple bit failure detection, a fact that was true. The examiner intrepreted the amended language as not introducing that specific statement in the claim, so the formal entry of that statement in the claim appears now. The claims have been amended to clarify the on-chip diagnostic process claimed.

The applicants point out that the examiner has already found the limitation of N+1 in claim 1 was not in the art and that process is elaborated with this amendment. The references only show apparatus incapable of handling multiple failures on a chip diagnosis of fault, and do not show any on chip apparatus or process for handling multiple bit failure detection. They do not show the skipping process for reuse of chip circuitry, as the examiner has noted. The examiners careful suggestions for claim language improvement have been accommodated. The specific step by stem method also is not shown by the references. To say that there is a programmable tester which can be created by a user and loaded in advance does not teach the invention. The claims should now be in accordance with the examiner's suggestion.

The abstract has now been reduced to less than 150 words. Aside from the fact that changes were not made in the

IBM-POU920010050US1 Exam'nr M.Chaudry,  
09/841569

- 8 -

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specification as to punctuation, etc., remain because they are correct, precise, exactly set out commas and all, conforming to G&C Merriam Co's Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, 1956 Edition rules at page 1149 regarding punctuation of a series of adjectives for a noun, all other suggestions of the Examiner are appreciated and now have been adopted.

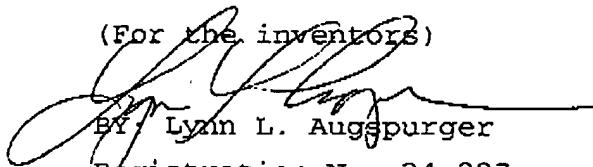
It is not believed necessary here to state the details in response to the last office action and this correction are details not shown in the references, and the features of the dependent claims are not shown either. This application's amendment should be entered, either to place this application in condition for allowance or for appeal if necessary.

Expedited examination of this Rule 116 Amendment has been requested. This amendment is being filed by Facsimile transmission.

If there is any change that needs to be made, the applicant's attorney will be pleased if the examiner would suggest it. Morning telephones are best for the undersigned. It is respectfully submitted that the application should be in final condition for allowance which is respectfully requested.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

(For the inventors)



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